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Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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DOS review(s) completed.

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SUMMARY

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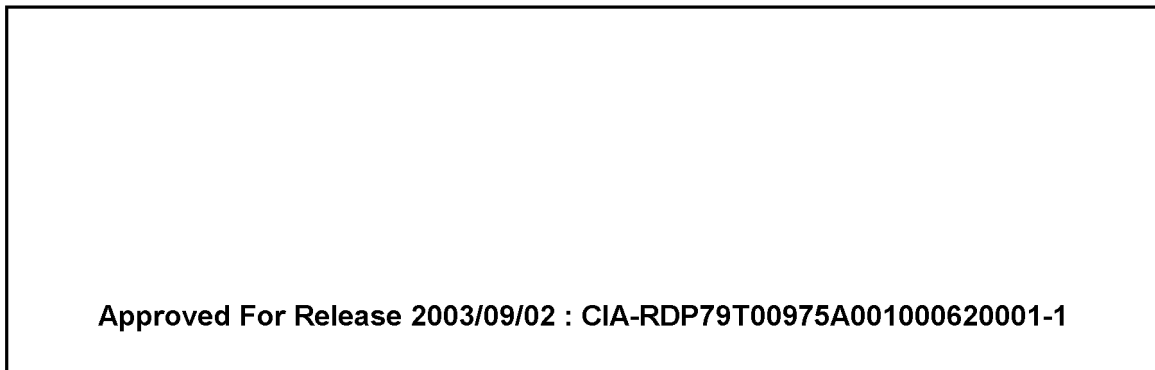
LATIN AMERICA



5. Stability of Bolivian government reportedly threatened by RFC decision (page 5).

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LATIN AMERICA

5. Stability of Bolivian government reportedly threatened by RFC decision:

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The Reconstruction Finance Corporation's decision not to discuss a contract for the purchase of Bolivian tin ores is a blow from which the present Bolivian government may not recover, in the opinion of Ambassador Sparks . He added that without the assurance of a US market for half of the country's tin production, economic chaos with the attendant political consequences will be hastened.

The RFC decision, which has not yet been made public, "came as a bombshell" to the Bolivian cabinet and caused it to wonder whether the United States is trying to force the Paz government out of office.

Comment: Bolivian Ambassador Andrade in Washington has been informed that the RFC decision is based on the fact that the United States now has sufficient tin to meet its estimated requirements.

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The decision is likely to be distorted in
Bolivia as US retaliation for the government's tin nationalization
decree of last October.

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